- observance of hygiene, and
- wholesome quality of the food served.

Efforts have been made to suitably address the above concerns in the revised guidelines of the scheme issued to States in December, 2004.

Streamlining of different syllabi and curriculum

2065. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in different States, the different syllabi and curriculum are being followed at school and university level; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to streamline the syllabi and curriculum based on the consensus of Education Ministers of the States, students and teachers' respresentatives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) In school education sector, at the national level, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) prepares the curriculum for school education. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) adopts/adapts this curriculum only for its affiliated schools. The State Education Boards are not bound to follow the curriculum prepared by the NCERT. They are empowered to prepare their own curriculum for their respective schools. Both the Central and State universities, enjoy full autonomy particularly in respect of curriculum and syllabi being adopted by them. The subject "Education" being on the Concurrent List, information regarding details of curriculum and syllabi adopted by different State Boards and Universities is not maintained by the Central Government.

(b) The Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) has set up a committee on 10.9.2004 to suggest an appropriate regulatory mechanism for institutionalizing the issue of preparation of textbooks and curricular material.

Inspections by UGC

2066. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission has undertaken inspection visits of AMITY University;

(b) if so, how many such inspection visits were undertaken by the UGC;

(c) what were the findings;

(d) whether there has been hostility between the UGC and some new private universities; and

(e) what steps the UGC would take to create a more positive and constructive atmosphere in dealing with the private educational institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Experts Committees of the UGC conducted inspections of all the private universities notified by the State Government of Chhattisgarh in terms of the provisions of the Chhattisgarh Niji Kshetra Vishwavidyalaya [Sthapana Aur Viniyaman] Sansodhan Adhiniyam, 2004 including the 'AMITY'. The Committees reports were conveyed to the State Government for appropriate action.

In the meantime, Private universities established in the State of Chhattisgarh under the Chhattisgarh Niji Kshetra Vishwavidyalaya [Sthapana Aur Viniyaman] Adhiniyam, 2002 and the Sansodhan Adhiniyam of 2004, have ceased to exist as a result of the Supreme Court of India's judgement dated 11 February, 2005 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 19/2004: Prof. Yash Pal & Ors. *Vs.* State of Chhattisgarh & Ors.

Clusters of Institutions

2067. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission has evolved plans to form clusters of institutions so that infrastructure may be shared;

(b) if so, the details of the cluster formations amongst the universities being advocated by the University Grants Commission;

(c) whether the UGC would also formulate a scheme to fund such cluster formation;

(d) the details of the participation of UGC in this proposal;

(e) whether all universities have agreed to this idea; and

(f) if not, the reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), no such scheme has been formulated.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.